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Agenda item 125

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 8th, 10th, 13th and 39th meetings, on 15, 16 and 18 October and 20 December 2001. Comments and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.8, 10, 13 and 39).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Contributions.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.23

4. At the 39th meeting, on 20 December, following informal consultations, the representative of India, on behalf of the Chairman, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" (A/C.5/56/L.23) and made a statement regarding the understanding of the Committee in connection with operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution (see A/C.5/56/SR.39).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.23 without a vote (see para. 7).

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/56/11).

6. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Cuba made a statement in explanation of position (see A/C.5/56/SR.39).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions,[2]

1. *Recalls* its resolution 55/5 A of 26 October 2000;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the information contained in the annexes to his report on the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations;[3]

3. *Recognizes* that multi-year payment plans, subject to careful formulation, could be helpful in allowing Member States to demonstrate their commitment under Article 19 of the Charter to pay off their arrears, thereby facilitating consideration of applications for exemption by the Committee on Contributions, and requests the Secretary-General to propose guidelines for such multi-year payment plans through the Committee on Contributions;

4. *Recognizes also* that it would be helpful for the Secretariat to be equipped with input from Member States on a schedule of payments or other information about their intentions to clear their accumulated arrears, and encourages Member States in a position to do so to provide such information;

5. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, in order to avoid difficulties being experienced by the United Nations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to propose or consider further measures to encourage Member States in arrears to reduce and eventually pay their arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly during the main part of its fifty-seventh session for subsequent consideration at its resumed fifty-seventh session.

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[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/56/11); ibid., *Supplement No. 11A* and corrigendum (A/56/Add.1 and Corr.1).

[3] A/55/789.